

108

OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS RENDERED BY THE INTER- NATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

Edited by

FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

Secretary to the Commission

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OPINION 309

Designation, under the Plenary Powers, of a type species in harmony with accustomed usage for *Normannites* Munier-Chalmas, 1892 (Class Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea), a genus based upon a misidentified type species



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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

COMPOSITION AT THE TIME OF THE ADOPTION OF THE RULING GIVEN IN OPINION 309

A. The Officers of the Commission

Honorary Life President : Dr. Karl Jordan (*British Museum (Natural History), Zoological Museum, Tring, Herts., England*).

President : (Vacant).

Vice-President : Senhor Dr. Afranio do Amaral (*Sao Paulo, Brazil*).

Secretary : Mr. Francis Hemming (*London, England*).

B. The Members of the Commission

(arranged in order of precedence by reference to date of election or of most recent re-election, as prescribed by the International Congress of Zoology).

Senhor Dr. Afranio do AMARAL (*S. Paulo, Brazil*) (*Vice-President*) (1st January 1944).

Professor J. R. DYMOND (*University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada*) (1st January 1944).

Professor J. Chester BRADLEY (*Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., U.S.A.*) (28th March 1944).

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Dr. William Thomas CALMAN (*Coulsdon, Surrey, England*) (1st January 1947).

Professor Béla HANKÓ (*Békéscsaba, Hungary*) (1st January 1947).

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Mr. Francis HEMMING (*London, England*) (*Secretary*) (27th July 1948).

Dr. Joseph PEARSON (*Tasmanian Museum, Hobart, Tasmania, Australia*) (27th July 1948).

Dr. Henning LEMCHE (*Universitetets Zoologiske Museum, Copenhagen, Denmark*) (27th July 1948).

Professor Teiso ESAKI (*Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan*) (17th April 1950).

Professor Pierre BONNET (*Université de Toulouse, France*) (9th June 1950).

Mr. Norman Denbigh RILEY (*British Museum (Natural History), London*) (9th June 1950).

Professor Tadeusz JACZEWSKI (*Department of Systematic Zoology, Warsaw University, Warsaw, Poland*) (15th June 1950).

Professor Robert MERTENS (*Natur-Museum u. Forschungs-Institut Senckenberg, Frankfurt a. M., Germany*) (5th July 1950).

Professor Erich Martin HERING (*Zoologisches Museum der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany*) (5th July 1950).

OPINION 309

DESIGNATION, UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS, OF A TYPE SPECIES IN HARMONY WITH ACCUSTOMED USAGE FOR "NORMANNITES" MUNIER-CHALMAS, 1892 (CLASS CEPHALOPODA, ORDER AMMONOIDEA), A GENUS BASED UPON A MISIDENTIFIED TYPE SPECIES

RULING :—(1) Under the Plenary Powers, (a) all type selections for the genus *Normannites* Munier-Chalmas, 1892 (Class Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea) made prior to the present Ruling are hereby set aside, and (b) *Normannites orbigny* Buckman, 1908, is hereby designated to the type species of the foregoing genus.

(2) The under-mentioned generic name is hereby placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* as Name No. 753 : *Normannites* Munier-Chalmas, 1892 (gender : masculine) (type species, by designation, under the Plenary Powers, under (1)(b) above : *Normannites orbigny* Buckman, 1908).

(3) The under-mentioned specific name is hereby placed on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* as Name No. 173 : *orbigny* Buckman, 1908, as published in the combination *Normannites orbigny* (specific name of type species, by designation, under the Plenary Powers, under (1)(b) above).

I.—THE STATEMENT OF THE CASE

On 15th February 1951 Dr. W. J. Arkell (*Sedgwick Museum, Cambridge University, Cambridge*) submitted the following application for the use by the International Commission, under the special procedure prescribed by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, 1948 (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **4** : 158—159), of its Plenary Powers for the purpose of designating a type species in harmony with accustomed usage for *Normannites*

Munier-Chalmas, 1892 (Class Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea), a genus based upon a misidentified type species :—

**Proposed use of the Plenary Powers to designate a type species for
"Normannites" Munier-Chalmas, 1892, a genus based upon a
misidentified type species (Class Cephalopoda, Order
Ammonoidea) (Jurassic)**

By W. J. ARKELL, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S.

(Sedgwick Museum, Cambridge University, Cambridge)

1. The present application for the use by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature of its Plenary Powers to designate, as the type species of *Normannites* Munier-Chalmas, 1892 (*Bull. Soc. géol. France* (3) 20 : C.R. : clxxii) (Class Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea), a species other than that which would be the type species under the *Règles*, is submitted under the procedure prescribed by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, July 1948 (see 1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 158—159) as that to be followed in the case of genera based upon misidentified type species.

2. The facts of this case are simple. Munier-Chalmas, when first publishing the generic name *Normannites*, stated that the type species of this genus was *Ammonites braikenridgei*¹ d'Orbigny. The species so referred to is that figured by d'Orbigny in 1846 (: 400, pl. 135, figs. 3, 4).

3. The difficulty in this case arises from the fact that d'Orbigny never published the name *Ammonites braikenridgei* as a new name, his use of that binominal combination being due to his having misidentified the species which he figured on his plate 135 (figs. 3, 4) with the previously described species *Ammonites braikenridgei* Sowerby, 1817 (*Min. Conch.* 2 : 187). The genus *Normannites* Munier-Chalmas is thus a genus based upon a misidentified type species, that type species having been designated by the original author at the time of the first publication of the generic name.

4. Subsequent authors have followed Munier-Chalmas in treating the species figured by d'Orbigny (*i.e.*, the species misidentified by d'Orbigny as *Ammonites braikenridgei* Sowerby) as the type species of *Normannites* and not the true *Ammonites braikenridgei*. The species figured by d'Orbigny remained without a name until Buckman, in 1927,² gave it the name *Normannites orbignyi*.

5. It is important from the point of view of securing stability in nomenclature that current nomenclatorial practice in this matter should

¹ For a note on the orthography of this name see paragraph 10 of the present *Opinion*.

² For Dr. Arkell's correction of this date to 1908 see paragraph 11 of the present *Opinion*.

be given a firm legal foundation. I accordingly submit the present application under the procedure prescribed by the International Congress of Zoology for adoption in cases such as the present. The application now submitted is that the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature should :

- (1) under the procedure prescribed by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology for determining the type species of a genus based upon a misidentified type species, use its Plenary Powers (a) to set aside all selections of type species for the genus *Normannites* Munier-Chalmas, 1892, made prior to the proposed decision, and (b), having done so, to designate *Normannites orbigny* Buckman, 1927, to be the type species of the foregoing genus ;
- (2) place the generic name *Normannites* Munier-Chalmas, 1892, (type species, as proposed in (1) above to be designated under the Plenary Powers : *Normannites orbigny* Buckman, 1927) (gender of generic name : masculine) on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* ;
- (3) place the trivial name *orbigny* Buckman, 1927, as published in the binominal combination *Normannites orbigny*, on the *Official List of Specific Trivial Names in Zoology*.

References :

- Buckman, S. S., 1927. *Type Ammonites* 7 : pl. dcccxxxiv.
- Orbigny, A. C.d', 1846. *Pal. franç.*, Terr. jurass. : 400, pl. 135, figs. 3, 4.
- Munier-Chalmas, E. C. P. A., 1892. " Sur la possibilité d'admettre un dimorphisme sexuel chez les Ammonitidés ". *Bull. Soc. géol. France* (3) 20 C.R. : clxxii
- Sowerby, J., 1817. *Mineral Conchology* 2 : 187

II.—THE SUBSEQUENT HISTORY OF THE CASE

2. *Registration of the present application* : On the receipt of Dr. Arkell's application, the question of the species to be accepted as the type species of the genus *Normannites* Munier-Chalmas, 1892, was allotted the Registered Number Z.N.(S.) 508.

3. *Publication of the present application* : The present application was sent to the printer in March 1951 and was published on 4th May 1951 in Triple-Part 6/8 of volume 2 of the *Bulletin*

of *Zoological Nomenclature* (Arkell, 1951, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 2 : 222—223).

4. *Issue of Public Notices* : Under the revised arrangements approved by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, 1948 (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 51—56), Public Notice of the possible use by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature of its Plenary Powers in the present case was given on 4th May 1951, both in Triple-Part 6/8 of volume 2 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*, the Part in which Dr. Arkell's application was published, and also to the other prescribed serial publications. In addition Public Notice was given to certain palaeontological serial publications in Europe and America. The publication of these Notices elicited no objection to the action proposed during the Prescribed Period of Public Notice, but after the close of that period the objection reproduced in the immediately following paragraph was received in the Office of the Commission.

5. *Objection received from the Joint Committee on Zoological Nomenclature for Paleontology in America* : On 9th April 1952 there was received a large number of letters commenting on various applications previously published in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* from Professor G. Winston Sinclair (then of the *University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, U.S.A.*), Chairman of the Joint Committee on Zoological Nomenclature for Paleontology in America. Included among these was a letter reporting that the members of the Committee were opposed to the present application by six votes to five. The foregoing letter was dated 18th February 1952, and its late receipt was apparently due to a decision to defer the despatch to the Commission of the letters containing comments by members of the Joint Committee until all the letters in question had been prepared. By the date on which this letter was received the Prescribed Period of Public Notice had expired and the Voting Paper (V.P.(52)28) relating to this case had been prepared. It was therefore impossible to include in that Voting Paper a reference to Professor Sinclair's letter, but, when the Voting Paper was despatched (24th April), a supplementary sheet containing the particulars furnished by Professor Sinclair was issued to the Members of the Commission, who were thus placed in possession of the views of the Joint Committee

at the same time that they received the Voting Paper relating to the present case. The following is the text of Professor Sinclair's letter :—

The Joint Committee on Zoological Nomenclature for Paleontology in America has considered this subject, and I wish to inform you that, being polled, they voted : To support the petition (five) : (1) Katherine V. W. Palmer ; (2) J. Marvin Weller ; (3) Bobb Schaeffer ; (4) John B. Reeside, Jr. ; (5) Bryan Patterson. To oppose the petition (six) : (1) R. C. Moore ; (2) A. Myra Keen ; (3) Don L. Frizzell ; (4) John W. Wells ; (5) Siemon W. Muller ; (6) G. Winston Sinclair.

III.—THE DECISION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

6. *Issue of Voting Paper V.P.(52)28* : On 24th April 1952, a Voting Paper (V.P.(52)28) was issued in which the Members of the Commission were invited to vote either for, or against, the proposal “ relating to the name *Normannites* Chalmas-Munier, 1892, as specified in Points (1) to (3) in paragraph 5 on page 223 of volume 2 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* ” [i.e., in paragraph 5 of the application reproduced in the first paragraph of the present *Opinion*].

7. *The Prescribed Voting Period* : As the foregoing Voting Paper was issued under the Three-Month Rule, the Prescribed Voting Period closed on 24th July 1952.

8. *Particulars of the Voting on Voting Paper V.P.(52)28* : The state of the voting on Voting Paper V.P.(52)28 at the close of the Prescribed Voting Period was as follows :—

(a) *Affirmative Votes had been given by the following sixteen (16) Commissioners (arranged in the order in which Votes were received)* :

Calman ; Hering ; Dymond ; Esaki ; do Amaral ; Hankó ; Bonnet ; Lemche ; Vokes ; Cabrera ; Pearson ; Bradley ; Boschma ; Mertens ; Hemming ; Riley ;

(b) *Negative Vote, one (1)* :

Stoll ;

(c) *Voting Paper not returned, one (1) :*

Jaczewski.

9. *Declaration of Result of Vote :* On 25th July 1952, Mr. Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission, acting as Returning Officer for the Vote taken on Voting Paper V.P.(52)28, signed a Certificate that the Votes cast were as set out in paragraph 8 above and declaring that the proposal submitted in the foregoing Voting Paper had been duly adopted and that the decision so taken was the decision of the International Commission in the matter aforesaid.

10. *Note on the correct form for a specific name formed in the genitive singular when based upon the modern patronymic of a man, where that patronymic ends with the letter “-e” as in the patronymic “Braikenridge” :* On 1st March 1954, Mr. Hemming, as Secretary to the Commission placed the following Minute on the Commission's File Z.N.(S.) 508 relating to the present case :—
“Although under the decision taken by the Commission in the case of the generic name *Normannites* Munier-Chalmas, 1892, there is no longer a question of the type species of this genus being a species, the name of which is based upon the modern patronymic “Braikenridge”, it may be convenient for purposes of record to note the position in regard to such a name under the decision taken by the Fourteenth International Congress of Zoology, Copenhagen, 1953, when amending and clarifying the provisions of Article 14 of the *Règles*, for there might otherwise be a risk of misunderstanding on this subject. The Copenhagen Congress confirmed (1953, *Copenhagen Decisions zool. Nomencl.* : 51—52, Decision 86(1)(b)) as a mandatory provision the provision adopted by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, 1948 (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 205—206) that a name based upon the modern patronymic of a man and formed in the genitive singular is to be formed by the addition of the termination “-i” to the exact form of that patronymic. Under this decision such a name, if incorrectly formed, is, as a mandatory provision, subject to automatic correction by later authors (1953, *ibid.* : 53, Decision 87). Thus, a specific name based on the modern patronymic “Braikenridge”, if published (as in the present case by d'Orbigny) in the incorrect form “*braikenridgii*” (i.e. with an “i” instead of an “e” as the penultimate vowel)

is subject to automatic correction to "*braikenridgei*". This case, it will be noted, is entirely distinct from the case where a specific name formed in the genitive singular and based upon the modern patronymic of a man ending in a consonant is formed with a termination consisting of a double "i" (as "-ii"); under a decision taken by the Copenhagen Congress (modifying a decision taken by the Paris (1948) Congress), the terminations "-i" and "-ii" in such a case are permissible variants without nomenclatorial significance (1953, *Copenhagen Decisions zool. Nomencl.* : 54, Decision 91)."

11. *Substitution of an earlier reference for the specific name "Normannites orbigny" Buckman*: On 20th March 1954 Dr. Arkell notified the Secretary that although, as stated in the present application, the name *Normannites orbigny* had been published by Buckman in 1927 as a new name for the nominal species since designated by the Commission under its Plenary Powers to be the type species of the genus *Normannites* Munier-Chalmas, 1892, it had since been ascertained that Buckman had previously bestowed the same name on the same species. This was in a paper published in 1908 (*Ann. Mag. nat. Hist.* (8) 1 : 146). The name so published was put forward as a substitute name (*nom. nov.*) for *Ammonites braikenridgii* d'Orbigny, 1846 : plate 135, figs. 3, 4 (*nec Ammonites braikenridgii* Sowerby (J.), 1817 (*Min. Conch.* 2 : 187)). Immediately upon the receipt of the foregoing communication, Mr. Hemming, as Secretary, placed a Minute on the Commission File Z.N.(S.) 508, directing that the reference for the name *Ammonites orbigny* Buckman to be given in the Ruling on the present case be corrected accordingly. In doing so, Mr. Hemming noted that in the circumstances disclosed by Dr. Arkell the holotype of the foregoing nominal species was the specimen figured by d'Orbigny on his plate 135 (figs. 3, 4) and not the specimen figured by Buckman in 1927.

12. On 22nd March 1954 Mr. Hemming prepared the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* and at the same time signed a Certificate that the terms of that Ruling were in complete accord with those of the proposals approved by the International Commission in its Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(52)28, subject to the correction specified in the Minute executed by the Secretary on 20th March 1954 (paragraph 11 above).

13. The following are the original references for the names placed on *Official Lists* by the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* :—

Normannites Munier-Chalmas, 1892, *Bull. Soc. géol. France* (3) 20 C.R. : clxxii

orbignyi, *Normannites*, Buckman, 1908, *Ann. Mag. nat. Hist.* (8) 1 : 146.

14. The nominal genus *Normannites* Munier-Chalmas, 1892, is not the type genus of a family-group taxon and accordingly no question arises in the present case of placing any name on the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology*.

15. At the time of the adoption of the Ruling given in the present *Opinion*, the expression prescribed for the second portion of the binomen which constitutes the scientific name of a species was the expression "trivial name" and the *Official List* reserved for recording such names was styled the *Official List of Specific Trivial Names in Zoology*, the word "trivial" appearing also in the title of the *Official Index* reserved for recording rejected and invalid names of this category. Under a decision taken by the Fourteenth International Congress of Zoology, Copenhagen, 1953, the expression "specific name" was substituted for the expression "trivial name" and corresponding changes were made in the titles of the *Official List* and *Official Index* of such names (1953, *Copenhagen Decisions zool. Nomencl.* : 21). The changes in terminology so adopted have been incorporated in the Ruling given in the present *Opinion*.

16. The prescribed procedures were duly complied with by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in dealing with the present case, and the present *Opinion* is accordingly rendered in the name of the said International Commission by the under-signed Francis Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, in virtue of all and every the powers conferred upon him in that behalf.

17. The present *Opinion* shall be known as *Opinion* Three Hundred and Nine (309) of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

DONE in London, this Twenty-Second day of March, Nineteen Hundred and Fifty-Four.

*Secretary to the International Commission
on Zoological Nomenclature*

FRANCIS HEMMING